

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

UNCLAS STATE 273754

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, BA

SUBJECT:R/V EASTWARD CLEARANCE REQUEST, 4-18 JAN 1977

1. R/V EASTWARD, A PRIVATE VESSEL OPERATED BY DUKE UNIVERSITY MARINE LABORATORY AND FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT RESEARCH ON LITTLE BAHAMA BANK, NORTHWEST PROVIDENCE CHANNEL AND NORTHEAST PROVIDENCE CHANNEL. THE SCOPE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO DEFINE THE STRUCTURAL SEDIMENTOLOGIES AND DIAGENETIC RELATIONSHIPS AND FRAMEWORK OF DEEP CARBONATE BANK MARGINS IN THE NORTHERN BAHAMAS. A CHEMICAL PROJECT WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE NORTHWEST PROVIDENCE CHANNEL INVOLVING EXCESS CO-2, PH, NUTRIENTS, APPARENT OXYGEN UPTAKE, AND METHANE.

2. HIGH RESOLUTION SEISMIC REFLECTION PROFILES, GRAB SAMPLES, PISTON CORES, ROCK DREDGE SAMPLES AND BOTTOM PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE OBTAINED. THE SEISMIC PROFILER WILL BE AIR POWERED. NISKIN BOTTLES AND CHEMICAL ANALYZING EQUIPMENT WILL BE UTILIZED. CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BOTTOM WILL BE STUDIED TO DETERMINE THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE OVERLYING BOTTOM WATERS. A COPY OF THE SHIP'S UNCLASSIFIED

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TRACK IS BEING POUCHED.

3. TWO BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPANTS FROM THE GCOB

AND ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE FREELY SHARED.

4. DR. A. CONRAD NEUMANN IS THE CHIEF SCIENTIST AND HE
WILL BE ASSISTED BY DRS. MARTENS AND BARBER AND ELEVEN
OTHER SCIENTISTS. THE MASTER OF EASTWARD IS R. SANDOY
WITH A CREW OF 15. EASTWARD IS 284 GROSS TONS, 118 FT.
LONG AND 13 FT. DRAFT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS WY-9219 AND
SHIP COMMUNICATES WITH DUKE DAILY AND MONITORS EMERGENCY
FREQUENCIES.

5. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR
EASTWARD TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN TERRITORIAL WATERS AND
ON CONTINENTAL SHELF OF BAHAMAS DURING PERIOD 4-18 JAN.
1977. KISSINGER

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